

Amendment to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A wavelength division multiplex (WDM) transmission system, comprising:
 - a WDM transmission network having a plurality of routes for transmitting optical signals;
 - an optical transmission device to distribute transmission signals to be transmitted among a plurality of wavelength components, convert each of said transmission signals into WDM signals, and send each of said WDM signals to a specific route of the plurality of routes of said WDM transmission network;
 - an optical receiving device to restore the WDM signals from the WDM transmission network into the transmission signals; and
 - a wavelength component-specific route setting device to set routes for each of the wavelength components for transmission on said WDM transmission network.
2. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 1, wherein
 - said optical transmission device has a plurality of optical channel units, for each of said wavelength components, which convert distributed transmission signals into optical signals at a prescribed wavelength, and signal distribution means which divides transmission signals into a plurality of signals and distributes said signals among said optical channel units; and,
 - said optical channel units for each wavelength component output optical signals which include labeling information for designating a route set for the own optical channel unit.
3. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 1, wherein said optical receiving device has a plurality of optical receiving units for each of

said wavelength components, which convert optical signals at the wavelength component into distributed transmission signals which are electrical signals, and a delay compensation unit which absorbs differences in the propagation delay of distributed transmission signals from each of said optical receiving units.

4. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 1, wherein said wavelength component-specific route setting device has route-setting means which sets routes for each of said wavelength components for transmission through said WDM transmission network, according to route-specific transmission characteristics.

5. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 4, wherein

said optical transmission device and said optical receiving device comprise constituent components of transmission characteristic evaluation means for sending, receiving, and evaluating evaluation signals to evaluate transmission characteristics of prescribed wavelength components for each route, and

said wavelength component-specific route setting device has route-setting means which sets routes for each of said wavelength components for transmission on said WDM transmission network, according to the evaluation results of said transmission characteristic evaluation means.

6. (currently amended) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 5, wherein said wavelength component-specific route setting device has route-setting means which causes said transmission characteristic evaluation means to evaluate one or a plurality of empty routes for each wavelength component, and sets routes,

wherein said signal distribution means has data quantity determination means which determines data quantities for distribution to each wavelength component, according to evaluation results for set routes by said transmission characteristic evaluation means,

wherein said transmission system comprises a transmission quality management means which, during transmission of the WDM signals of said transmission signals, evaluate transmission quality for each wavelength component and control transmission speed for each

wavelength component,

wherein the wavelength components which are the objects for evaluation of said transmission quality management means are wavelength components with an empty band capacity equal to or less than a prescribed value, and

wherein, during transmission of the WDM signals of said transmission signals, said signal distribution means comprises data quantity control means which controls the data quantities distributed to each wavelength component according to evaluation results for set routes by said transmission characteristic evaluation means.

7-10. (canceled)

11. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 2, wherein, upon occurrence of a defect in any of members of said optical channel units or said optical receiving cards, said signal distribution means redistributes to other optical channel units the data quantity of the transmission signal distributed to the wavelength component of the defective member, according to empty band capacity for each wavelength component.

12. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 2, wherein said optical transmission device has an auxiliary optical channel unit which, upon the occurrence of a defect in any of members of said optical channel units or said optical receiving units, functions in place of said optical channel unit to take charge of the wavelength component of the defective member, and said optical receiving device has an auxiliary optical receiving unit which functions in place of said optical receiving unit to take charge of the wavelength component of said defective member.

13. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 12, wherein said auxiliary optical channel unit and said auxiliary optical receiving unit process a fixed wavelength component for auxiliary use.

14. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to

claim 12, wherein said auxiliary optical channel unit and said auxiliary optical receiving unit can change the wavelength which can be processed, and can be set to and operate at the wavelength component of said defective member.

15. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 1, wherein, upon the occurrence of a defect in a network element in said WDM transmission network, said wavelength component-specific route setting device resets the routes for transmission in said WDM transmission network for all of said wavelength components on routes which have said network element as an element.

16. (previously presented) A wavelength division multiplex (WDM) transmission system, comprising:

- a WDM transmission network having a plurality of routes for transmitting optical signals;
- an optical transmission device which converts into wavelength division multiplex signals (WDM signals), each of the transmission signals input as electrical signals from a transmission terminal and sends said signals to said WDM transmission network;

- an optical receiving device which converts said WDM signals received from said WDM transmission network into electrical signals, and regenerates said transmission signals for output to an output terminal; and

- a network management device which is coupled to said optical transmission device, WDM transmission network and optical receiving device, and which manages functions for each of these devices; wherein

- said optical transmission device and optical receiving device are designed to cooperate in generating transmission quality information for a plurality of routes within said WDM transmission network, with said transmission quality information provided to said network management device from said optical receiving device;

- said network management device is designed to apply to said optical transmission device distribution instructions for distribution of each wavelength, to appropriate routes of the plurality of routes, of said WDM signals; and,

- said optical transmission device is designed to distribute said transmission signals, in

order to set routes by wavelength for said WDM signals according to distribution instructions, and output distributed transmission signals.

17. (currently amended) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 16, in which said optical transmission device comprises:

a distributor to distribute said transmission signals, and
an optical channel unit, coupled with said distributor, to convert into WDM signals each of said distributed transmission signals,

wherein said optical channel unit comprises an evaluation signal output unit to output, to said route, evaluation signals used to generate said transmission quality information, and

wherein said optical channel unit comprises a WDM signal output unit which outputs WDM signals corresponding to distributed transmission signals in accordance with said distributed transmission signals.

18-19. (canceled)

20. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 17, in which said optical channel unit comprises:

a WDM signal output unit which outputs WDM signals corresponding to distributed transmission signals in accordance with said distributed transmission signals;

an evaluation signal output unit which outputs, to said routes, evaluation signals used in generating said transmission quality information; and,

a signal selection unit which controls switching operation between said WDM signal output unit and said evaluation signal output unit.

21. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 18, in which said optical channel unit is designed such that labeling information for sending on respective corresponding routes of WDM signals and evaluation signals is added to said WDM signals and said evaluation signals according to said distribution instructions, and said signals are output.

31. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 17, in which said optical receiving unit comprises an auxiliary optical receiving unit of fixed wavelength or of variable wavelength, in parallel with said optical receiving unit, and which is used when a defect occurs in said optical receiving unit.

32. (original) A wavelength division multiplex transmission system according to claim 30, in which said optical transmission unit comprises an optical switch which selects wavelengths of said WDM signals from the optical channel unit and auxiliary optical channel unit.